

THE BLUFFTON PEACE SENTINEL

Vol. 1

Bluffton, Indiana, February 27, 1942

No. 16

J. P. KLASSEN SPEAKS TONIGHT

J. P. Klassen, who speaks at tonight's special Friday evening program, has an interesting background. He comes to this country from Russia where he personally saw and experienced the persecutions during and following the Russian revolution. Mr. Klassen heads the art department of Bluffton College and has been highly honored in this country for his work in painting and sculpture. Much of this work depicts the horrors endured by the Mennonites in Russia when starvation was forced upon them by the Bolsheviks and their property stolen by bands of plunderers. He will bring some of this work with him and will show it at the camp chapel.

Since Mr. Klassen's connections with Bluffton College, the art department in that institution has been greatly strengthened. He is a sincere conscientious objector and his visit is much appreciated by the camp group.

Forthcoming events.....

A number of interesting programs have already been arranged for the month of March. The Religious Life and Activities committee has prepared the Sunday evening program for March the 1st. "The Tongue" will be the topic for discussion and Kenneth McClure, Lyle Strauss, Milo Stalter, and Jake Kooi will do the talking. The meeting is to be in charge of Dennis D. Lehman and Miss Kolb will direct the singing. (cont. on page 5)

CAMP COUNCIL MEETS...

The bi-weekly meeting of the camp council took place last Monday evening. Among the more important things to be discussed was the question as to just how far we will be able to co-operate with probable civilian defense programs. Although no attempt was made to reach a decision as to the definition of the lengths to which we can conscientiously go, it was the feeling of the group that the matter needs careful consideration.

FIRST AID CLASS ORGANIZED HERE

Nearly one hundred members of the camp turned out for the first meeting of the class in first-aid Tuesday evening February 17. The class is meeting each week and is being taught by William Spurgeon, science instructor in the Berne High School.

The ability to administer first aid can be a valuable asset in an age when automobile and other accidents have become almost ordinary. Interest in the course has grown greatly since the beginning of the war, and no doubt will continue to grow. It is essential to some of the out of camp projects, such as foreign relief work, and will be valuable in many others.

Paradoxically, one of the main purposes of first aid training is to prevent accidents. A thorough knowledge of the effects of injuries is conducive to their elimination. What not to do in case of accident may sometimes be almost as important as to know what to do. Lives have been lost and permanent injuries unnecessarily inflicted because a well meaning person has done the wrong thing.

Sing for Veterans

The camp quartet, made up of Fletcher, Hill, Birky, and Stalter, sang for the chapel services at the Veterans Hospital in Marion, Indiana last Sunday morning. Dr. Guy Hershberger accompanied the boys and brought the message. During the afternoon the group visited a number of the wards and sang to the inmates, all of whom are war veterans. Except for the tuberculosis division, the hospital is a mental institution. A large number of the cases are direct results of the World War. The meeting at the hospital was sponsored by the Missionary Union from Berne, Indiana.

Sunday evening the same quartet sang at the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Bluffton. The boys received a fine reception from both Marion and Bluffton. On Sunday evening, March 8, the quartet, accompanied by Rev. Hartzler will give a program at the Howard-Miami Church near Kokomo, Indiana.

HEROIC-PATTERNS Mennonites as Pioneers

by Loris Habegger



Wolfgang Pinder was among those who from the years 1500 to 1600 renounced their former religious teachings and accepted the way of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He was a very

ardent worker, allowing nothing to keep him from a sparkling witness to his way which he had learned.

In the year 1571 he was apprehended through treachery at Scharding in Bavaria. The chancellor of Burkhausen personally took Pinder to Burkhausen where he had to resist many assaults and temptations. They used fair, smooth words, arrogance, and threats in an effort to make him change his convictions. However they availed nothing against this man, whose whole armor was the Word of God.

After the priests failed to break him, the executioner lay hold on him, and Pinder was cruelly tortured, racked and stretched most lamentably, so that his hands swelled greatly and he could not stand on his feet. Once when in great pain and suffering terribly from the torturing and racking, Wolfgang was approached by two priests who asked him to give up his faith. Turning to them he said, "Oh you priests, do repent, and turn from your sinful life, and false doctrine; for you are false prophets, and rogues that go about in sheep's clothing, and cover their deceitfulness and rascality with long robes; but inwardly you are ravening wolves."

At this the priests got angry and blushed; and they could not accomplish their purpose with him. He was finally taken back to Scharding and after more testing they finally gave up their efforts to move him from his great faith. They unexpectedly set a day for his execution, without even a judicial sentence. The executioner came, removed the collar from Wolfgang's neck; but as he did so he was siezed by great fear and trembling Wolfgang knelt down and commended his spirit into the hands of his

(cont. on page 5)

1. The Mennonites were the first modern religious group to preach and practice religious toleration, separation of church and state, democracy in church government, and opposition to war.

2. In 1662 Pieter Cornelisz Plockhoy established a Dutch Mennonite colony on the Delaware, which so far as known, was the first American settlement so far as known, was the first American settlement to forbid the employment of Negro slaves; and in 1683 several Mennonites also joined other Germantown settlers in demanding that the Pennsylvania Quakers go on record against slavery.

3. In 1690, William Rittenhouse, the first Mennonite minister in America, built on the Wissamickon, now in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, the first paper mill in America.

4. Christopher Dock, the "pious Mennonite schoolmaster on the Skippack" wrote in 1750, the earliest treatise on school teaching known in colonial America.

5. In 1748 the Ephrata Brethren, of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, manufactured the paper translated from the Dutch edition of 1660, and printed on their own hand press the large Mennonite Martyrs Mirror, said to be up to this time the most ambitious publishing undertaking of America.

6. Everywhere in the westward march of the pioneers Mennonites were among the earliest settlers in new lands on the Connecticut in 1720; along the Shenandoah in 1727; along the headwaters of the Ohio in southwestern Pennsylvania, in 1767; in Ohio, 1798; Illinois, 1831; and Iowa, 1839; and later in states farther west.

WASHING MACHINE DONATED.

Last week the camp was the fortunate recipient of a completely rebuilt Maytag washing machine, through the generosity of Mr. M. C. Landis, Maytag dealer and member of the Eighth Street Mennonite Church of Goshen, Indiana. This is a real contribution to the camp and is especially appreciated by the fellows who have done the large camp wash.

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The difference between listening to a radio sermon and going to church is the same as the difference between calling your girl on the telephone and spending an evening with her. ---Christian Herald



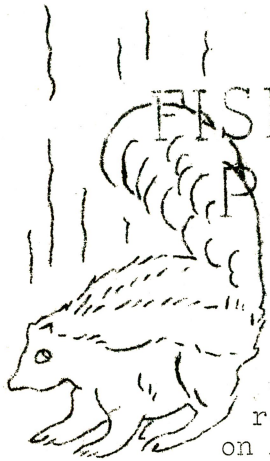
Laundry Notes

by
Albert Jones

The work shop is becoming such a busy place that the fellows have to come over to the ironing room to think.

The laundry crew did not work quite as efficiently last week due to several changes. Ben Shirk now runs the mangler and Erwin Gingerich pushes an iron. Johnny Weaver and Samuel Miller left the ironing room for something not quite so dry. They are now doing the wash.

Our new washing machine makes the laundry look much better. All we need now is a laundry stove that does not crack at the slightest excuse.



FISH AND GAME PROJECT

by
Dennis Lehman

The forestry boys seem to be very proud of their rabbit catching record. The thirteen men on fish and game never concentrate all their efforts on rabbits although we have about two hundred traps set to catch the cotton tails. Jake Hershberger runs all these traps every forenoon. We are also interested in big game such as wolves and bears. Felix the bear has two cubs which are now seven weeks old. The cubs are growing rapidly and are making themselves known in a very definite manner. Already two old bears Betty and Bruno have been killed to avoid over crowding the animal display building and also because of their unpleasant disposition. Two wolves also met the same fate. Others catch the rabbits but we bag and skin the wolves and butcher the bears.

Spring work is coming fast. Four hundred sixty racoon are being shipped to game wardens and are to be released in various parts of the State. Micky the pet coon is one of the lucky animal to enjoy his freedom during the coming spring and summer. We have also started to move the pheasant hens into the laying fields. This too is a good sign of the return of spring and new life.

FORESTRY PROJECT

by
Bud Rensberger

Our new project has been started since the last edition of the "Peace Sintinel." Several men have begun work to improve the white house located on the northern boundry of the park. They have dug a drain which will lead to the basement now being enlarged. The men had an interesting experience with a salesman last week. He knocked briskly on the door and "Little Abner" promptly replied "mother's not at home". Tut tut Abner, were you raiding the cracker box at that time?

Truck Trouble

Truck master Archie Mishler has been having his grief. Just about every cold morning Archie finds that one or more of his trucks have their gas lines frozen. One can imagine Archie's frustration when he goes after another truck to pull one into the garage and finds it frozen too. The garage men have discovered that the best way to thaw out a frozen pipe line is to use hot water or let the truck set in a heated garage.

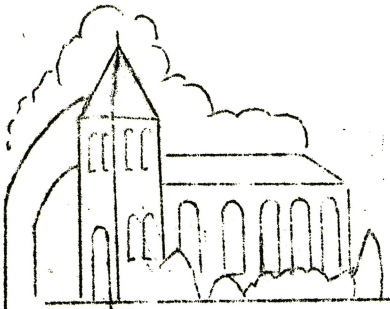
New Time Schedule

The tree digging is going forward with new zeal. A few more Fish and Game men were transferred and approximately thirty have been digging and moving trees from the future lake site.

The garage is nearing completion and it is hoped that all the trucks will soon be kept in the newly constructed building.

Levi Kline has several men working with him in the mill for the past several weeks. Their work has varied considerably from making forms for water hydrants to repairing and painting park benches and a drawing desk for Mr. Hammond, and other articles used in construction work. Their wood working machinery is powered by a Caterpillar tractor.

With longer days approaching and with longer hours by Civilians, Selective Service thought it wise for us to put in more hours. According to a recent camp
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THE BLUFFTON PEACE SENTINEL

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Staff Advisor.....Dr. Guy F. Hershberger

Last Sunday evening several of the Amish boys sang one of their traditional songs in the camp chapel. Our hearts were stirred as they sang the plaintive old hymn in their customary manner, and it seemed that before our eyes there appeared a long line of men, women, and children, who, year after year and throughout the centuries, have been bearing the mockery, ridicule, and even hatred of those among whom they lived. As we listened to their singing it seemed as though the pages of history were slowly turning back and that once again we could see the blood of martyrs and hear them sobbing and groaning as in their anguish they endured to the bitter end the torture of those who would make them renounce their faith.

When at last the song was ended our thoughts returned once more to the present, and to the days lying before us. For the American people and especially for those in the armed forces, long, hard days are coming. Tremendous courage will be needed as they at times face almost certain, violent death. Many of the boys will never come back. These facts have to be recognized, and we do recognize them. Also we know that few of us here are likely to face the dangers and physical hardships which they will face. Few, if any, of us will have to give our lives for the cause which we believe is right. Yet despite this comparative security, our natural inclination would be to join the army and also get into the thick of the fight. But we are not here by natural inclination, but because we believe our Saviour gave us a better way to deal with those who wrong us. Our faith in Him gives us faith in that better way which He taught. And to that faith we must always be true.

CML

A WAR OF PROMISES

The other evening a news reporter stated that Gen. MacArthur had asked for a large quantity of pamphlets which could be strewn about the Philippines, in an effort to counteract those being similarly broadcast in "air raids" by the Japanese, which (as the reporter put it) "have not been without effect on the Filipinos." From time to time reports have come that Japan is trying hard to make the war in the east a contest between the orientals and western nations, which have long held territorial interests there. In this effort to array the natives against the whites, the Japanese are making attractive promises of self-determination, independence, etc. to these subject peoples. One has to wonder just what sort of promises are to be made by us to offset those of the "enemy".

A day or two later the papers carried the headline, "Britain Offers More Home Rule to India." Thus after years of gen-

erally fruitless striving for the prize of home rule, India is now, in the midst of the emergency, promised real progress toward the realization of this long sought goal.

Well, why not go still farther and make it a war of promises? Why not turn it into an international contest of trying to outdo each other in offering to use national resources to help the hitherto subject peoples; letting them decide which group of nations offers most and can best be depended upon to keep its promises? Such warfare would entail no loss of life, and the capital required to execute the promises made would be but as an handful compared to what we are called upon to spend in armed combat. So we say, "Why not?"

R.L.H.

"The best way to get rid of enemies is to make friends of them."

Kitchen Left-Overs

by Paul A. Kinzer

The kitchen force seems so quiet since Lyle, Eli, Bert and Shorty are gone -- except when Raymond Miller makes it sound almost natural again with his hog calling contests.

Mel Yoder has tried a new way to skate on ice -- with his arms. Last week he hurt his arm while skating on the lake. He's hoping it gets better before his week-end comes up.

The dish dryers "pulled one" the other day! Two plates were found sticking together in the cupboard. Pulling them apart they were found to be messed up with pancakes and syrup. It is said Speed Lehman wipes them so fast that these two plates slipped by untouched.

Norman Begly called Ray Thomas over to taste some peaches to see if they were all right. Norman said his "taster is all gone". He has to taste so much food every day that his meal is eaten before dinner time comes.

Marvin Aupperle keeps us entertained with his love stories about some of his girls. In one instance a girl invited him over to her house to lunch. She fed him so much peanut butter bread that he nearly choked. She said it was one way to keep him quiet. At another time a girl asked him where he was stationed. He said C.P.S. No. 13. She thought he had said C.B.S. and asked if that was a Columbia Broadcasting Station . . .

The picture used as a background for this column illustrates how waiters should carry a big dish of hot soup for supper or a bowl of hot cereal for breakfast. At any rate the boys all go for it -- at least most of them do.

I'd rather see a sermon
Than hear one any day;
Rather one should walk with me
Than merely show the way.
The best of all the preachers
Are those who live their creed;
Religion seen in action
Is every body's need.

-- Contributed

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(Continued from page 1)

On the evening of March 15th a group from the Ft. Wayne Bible Institute will give a program at the camp chapel. The institute is an organization sponsored by the Missionary Church Association. That same evening a group from the camp is to give a program at the C. E. meeting of the First Mennonite Church at Berne.

On Friday evening, March 6, Dr. C. Henry Smith from Bluffton College and a well known Mennonite historian, will appear at the camp chapel. Dr. Smith has traveled in Hawaii, and will relate some of his experiences there. Two weeks later, Friday evening, March 20, F. E. Whitmer from Bluffton, Ohio will tell about some of the interesting people he has known.

(Continued from page 2)

Lord and God. The executioner handled him very badly; he could not strike him properly, nor execute him with dispatch; he finally, while he was lying on the earth, had to hack or cut off his head as best he could; so that he himself was in great fear, and in danger of his life from the people present, so that he vowed that he would never again execute any of his brethern.

WHY GRIPE!



This old world is full of woe . . .

Why gripe about petty things in camp life when the world situation is calling for the best that is in you. The need for today and tomorrow is constructive thinking and willing Christian service.

Do You Remember When - IMPOLITENESS DENOTES inferiority ----

Every other dish had that delightful dark brown flavor?

Ernie Christner was Ma's favorite son?

Lyle used to read bedtime stories?

Shorty was trapped on the kitchen roof?

John Plank was without an "exemption"?

Dorm D was the most peaceful dorm?

Our "most individual" words were spoken?

Kenny and Bert went to the North Pole?

Rutt would say, "Hum the third stanza"?

Ray Leichty had Lewis Lengacher to help him out of his difficulties?

J. Ernest Miller could beat Gordon

Habegger in arguing?

Louis L. Lock was a "little shaver"?

Many people overlook this point in their contacts with people. This point is best illustrated in an Abe Lincoln story:

President Lincoln, driving along a country road with a friend, met an aged Negro who lifted his hat. Lincoln promptly returned the salute, whereupon his companion asked in surprise:

"Surely, Mr. President, it isn't your custom to tip your hat to a Negro."

"Why yes, indeed," replied the President; "you couldn't expect me to permit a Negro to outdo me in politeness!"

BONTRAGER BRINGS MESSAGE

Eli J. Bontrager, bishop of the Amish Mennonite Church at Shipshewana, Indiana, preached at the camp chapel last Sunday morning. His exhortation, both in English and in the Pennsylvania German dialect was much appreciated. He stressed the importance of being conscientious objectors, not only to war, but to all that is unrighteous. Also he urged complete co-operation among the many groups represented, not only with one another but also with the camp administration. Mr. Bontrager is the Amish representative on the Mennonite Central Committee and a member of our camp advisory committee.

FOOD for THOUGHT

by Myrtle Kolb

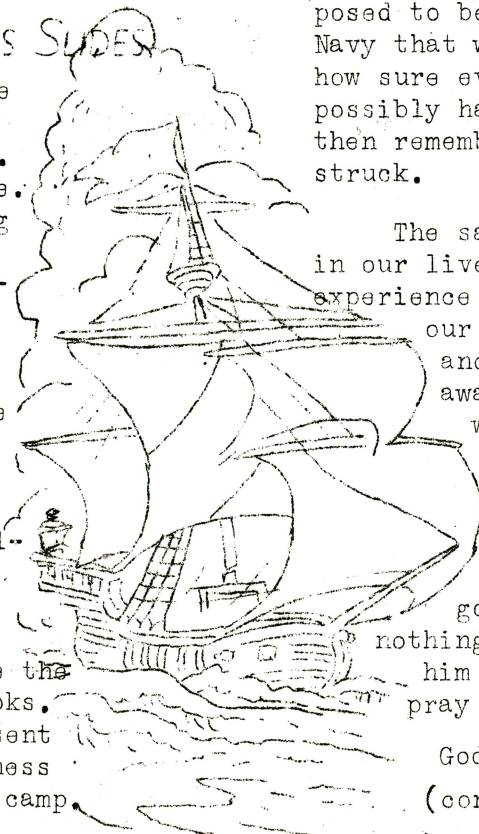
During these days everyone is familiar with the words "Remember Pearl Harbor!" -- for they are shouted and sung and brought to our attention in every imaginable way. Of course the primary reason is to waken us and make us aware of the danger in which our countries lie. But I've wondered whether it might not be good advice for each of us in our own lives. Remember Pearl Harbor! Remember what a wonderfully safe place it was supposed to be for that part of the U.S. Navy that was on Pacific duty. Remember how sure everyone was that nothing could possibly happen to our ships there. And then remember the sudden catastrophe that struck.

WENGER SHOWS SLIDES

The special feature for last Friday evening was in charge of John C. Wenger of Goshen College. He showed an interesting collection of slides giving scenes from Mennonite history, both in Europe and in America. The pictures were from a collection of the late Silas Grubb.

SNYDER VISITS CAMP

John Snyder, Controller and Auditor for the Mennonite Central Committee, is visiting the camp. His duties include the auditing of the camp books. Before assuming his present duties he had been business manager of the Grottoes camp.



The same kind of thing can happen in our lives. Many of us have had the experience of feeling sure of our friends, our position, and our way of life, and suddenly, before we were aware of what was taking place, we were sitting among the ruins trying to piece together the reasons for the calamity which had crushed us.

St. Patrick went through a good deal before he learned that nothing in life or the world about him was sure; before he learned to pray for

God's might to direct me,

(continued on page eight)

FORESTRY PROJECT

(from page 3)

director's bulletin our new schedule beginning March 1st, calls us to work at 7:30 A.M. and releases us at 5:00 each evening. Work for each week will end after Saturday noon.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

(from page 7)

God's power to protect me,
God's wisdom for learning,
God's eye for discerning,
God's ear for my hearing,
God's word for my clearing

And perhaps that is true of many
But if it brings us to a realization
our insufficiency and our utter dependence on God the experience, however bitter will have been a blessing.

GERALD MATHEWS RELEASED—

Gerald Mathews, who reported to this camp as an assignee on June 26, 1941 was released last Tuesday, February 24. Being a minister of the gospel, he was reclassified 4-D. Gerald was active in the religious activities of the camp, having served as chairman of the Religious Life and Activities Committee, and was one of the Sunday School teachers. He was foreman of the woodchoppers crew on the work project. The entire camp wishes him the best of everything as he returns to his ministry in the Church of God.

Remember that in life as in a mirror
you never get more out than you put in.

IN OTHER CAMPS

We feel a genuine obligation to finish—to finish well—the task which we have begun for the Park Service, and to do it without grudge or complaint. We shall without a doubt point one day to Crabtree Meadows Park and say, with just pride, "I helped to build that." Beyond this we hope the stage will be set for those of us who feel called to more vital service.

—C.P.S. Camp No. 19, Marion, North Carolina

Anticipating the necessity for air raid and fire preparedness, O.R. Stagmer, representing the Catonsville and Halethorpe fire chiefs, approached Bill Mackensen this week to request CPS aid. Volunteers are needed immediately to staff the Catonsville and Halethorpe houses 24 hours a day so that men will be on duty to receive fire calls and sound air raid warnings when regular firemen are called out.

—C.P.S. Camp No. 3, Relay, Maryland.

Wednesday night, Howard Sollenberger showed a few of his many slides on China which he had taken when actively engaged in relief work in China. Interesting oral supplements were supplied. Although the slides were primarily shown for the China Unit and the reconstruction class, a lot of others were present and thoroughly enjoyed the interesting program.

—C.P.S. Camp No. 6, Lagro, Indiana

Much needed barracks room is at last materializing on our camp grounds. From an abandoned CCC Camp away down in the southern tip of Ohio are coming truck loads of material. The building will house a chapel, library and reading room and class rooms.—C.P.S. Camp No. 8, Marietta, Ohio.

Sec. 562 P.L. & R.

Civilian Public Service
Camp No. 13
Bluffton, Indiana



Dean H. S. Bender

Goshen, Ind.